

Art Unit :  
Examiner :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 6 with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- This application is a divisional (and claims the benefit of priority under 35 USC 120) of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/054,218, filed April 2, 1998, which claims priority from U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/042,678, filed April 2, 1997. The disclosure of the prior application is considered part of (and is incorporated by reference in) the disclosure of this application. --

In the claims:

~~Please cancel claims 1-17, 25, 27-36, and 38-39~~

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I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.10 that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail Post Office to Addressee with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

**June 4, 2001**

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**Lisa G. Gray**

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